

For three successive Sabbaths Paul preached to the Thessalonians, reasoning with them from the Scriptures regarding the life, death, resurrection, office work, and future glory of Christ, the “Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” He exalted Christ, the proper understanding of whose ministry is the key that unlocks the Old Testament Scriptures, giving access to their rich treasures. . . .

As in the places formerly entered, the apostles met with determined opposition. “The Jews which believed not” were “moved with envy.” These Jews were not then in favor with the Roman power, because, not long before, they had raised an insurrection in Rome. They were looked upon with suspicion, and their liberty was in a measure restricted. They now saw an opportunity to take advantage of circumstances to re\_ establish themselves in favor, and at the same time to throw reproach upon the apostles and the converts to Christianity.” - Acts of the Apostles, page 229.

God has wondrous ways in dealing  
With His children here on earth,  
At the time not oft revealing  
All the richness of their worth.

Seldom know we, in our blindness,  
How all things can work for good;  
But His constant loving-kindness  
Will be sometime understood.

Love so large it strains the heartstrings,  
Broadens, deepens, while it hurts;  
And though time may bring sad partings,  
Deeper joy to life imparts.

Hardship, trial, and temptation  
Seem but hindrances in life,  
Till we get a revelation  
Of the fruit of toil and strife.

Even pain, which seems distressing  
And so sorely hard to bear,  
May become a means of blessing  
If more grace we seek in prayer.

Let us cherish this conviction,  
Praying for discerning eyes  
To discover in affliction  
Heaven's blessing in disguise.  
INA BOTSFORD WHITE.

## **OBSERVED IN THE NEW EARTH**

**As the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, says the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to Pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me says the Lord. Isaiah 66:22, 23.**

The Sabbath was not for Israel merely, but for the world. It had been made known to man in Eden, and, like the other precepts of the Ten Commandments, it is of imperishable obligation. Of that law of which the fourth commandment forms a part, Christ declares, “Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law.” So long as the heavens and the earth endure, the Sabbath will continue as a sign of the Creator's power. And when Eden shall bloom on earth again, God's holy rest day will be honored by all beneath the sun. “From one Sabbath to another” the inhabitants of the glorified new earth shall go up “to worship before Me, says the Lord.” - The Desire of Ages, page 283.

In the beginning the Father and the Son had rested upon the Sabbath after their work of creation.

When “the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them” (Genesis 2:1), the Creator and all heavenly beings rejoiced in contemplation of the glorious scene. “The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy.”

Now Jesus rested from the work of redemption; and though there was grief among those who loved Him on earth, yet there was joy in heaven. Glorious to the eyes of heavenly beings was the promise of the future. A restored creation, a redeemed race, that, having conquered sin, could never fall, this, the result to flow from Christ's completed work, God and angels saw. With this scene the day upon which Jesus rested is forever linked. For “His work is perfect”; and “whatsoever God does, it shall be forever.” Deuteronomy 32:4.

When there shall be a “restitution of all things which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began” (Acts 3:21), the creation Sabbath, the day on which Jesus lay at rest in Joseph's tomb, will still be a (lay of rest and rejoicing. Heaven and earth will unite in praise, as “from one Sabbath to another” the nations of the saved shall bow in joyful worship to God and the Lamb-Ibid., pages 769, 770.

Sweet is the Sabbath of the Lord  
To those who in His law delight;  
Who love the precepts of His Word,  
And tread the narrow path of right.  
J. S. THORP.

The heavenly High Priest is still as accessible to prayer and as ready to yield to His people's entreaty as when He six times conceded to Abraham's intercession. The God of Bethel is still the faithful keeper of His people. - HAMILTON.

## TRUE SPIRIT OF SABBATH KEEPING

**If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words. Then shall thou delight thyself in the Lord. And I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Isaiah 58:13,14.**

All heaven was represented to me as beholding and watching upon the Sabbath those who acknowledge the claims of the fourth commandment and are observing the Sabbath. Angels were marking their interest in, and high regard for, this divine institution. Those who sanctified the Lord God in their hearts by a strictly devotional frame of mind, and who sought to improve the sacred hours in keeping the Sabbath to the best of their ability, and to honor God by calling the Sabbath a delight. These angels were specially blessing with light and health, and special strength was given them. But on the other hand, the angels were turning from those who failed to appreciate the sacredness of God's sanctified day, and were removing from them their light and their strength. I saw them overshadowed with a cloud, desponding, and frequently sad. They felt a lack of the Spirit of God.” - Testimonies, Volume II, pages 704, 705.

When the Sabbath commences we should place a guard upon ourselves, upon our acts and our words, lest we rob God by appropriating to our own use that time which is strictly the Lord's. We should not do ourselves, nor suffer our children to do, any manner of our own work for a livelihood, or anything which could have been done on the six working days. Friday is the day of preparation. Time can then be devoted to making the necessary preparation for the Sabbath, and to thinking and conversing about it. Nothing which will in the sight of Heaven be regarded as a violation of the holy Sabbath should be left unsaid or undone, to be said or done upon the Sabbath.

God requires not only that we refrain from physical labor upon the Sabbath, but that the mind be disciplined to dwell upon sacred themes. The fourth commandment is virtually transgressed by conversing upon worldly things, or by engaging in light and trifling conversation. Talking upon anything or everything which may come into the mind, is speaking our own words. Every deviation from right brings us into bondage and condemnation. . . . Those who are not fully converted to the truth, frequently let their minds run freely upon worldly business, and although they may rest from physical toil upon the Sabbath, their tongues speak out what is in their minds; hence these words concerning cattle, crops, losses, and gains. All this is Sabbath breaking. If the mind is running upon worldly matters, the tongue will reveal it; for out of